Off-street parking lot to be ready by November

Downtown Rapid City shoppers will have a new off-street parking lot by early November, but it’s going to cost more.

The city council’s public works committee accepted the recommendation of the downtown parking board to establish the metered rate for the 56-space lot at Sixth and St. Joe at 25 cents for two hours with a two-hour maximum.

The committee also agreed to recommend to the full council the lot be designated as a “shoppers parking lot.”

At the same time, the committee accepted the parking board’s recommendation to increase the meter rates on all on-street meters in the Central Business District (CBD) to 5 cents for half hour and 10 cents per hour. The move would eliminate the penny meter.

Thus, it would cost 20 cents to park for the maximum two hours at on-street meters but 25 cents in the lot.

The committee also will recommend endorsement of a plan for using tokens that merchants can give to their customers to use in the meters.

A recommendation to increase the monthly parking rate at the city-leased parking lots on Fifth from Kansas City to St. Joe was rejected. The parking board recommended raising the monthly rate from $7.50 to $10, but the committee felt since the city lease runs out in February, it would not add enough to revenue to be worth the paperwork changes.